



Tennessee
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Farm Facts



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2004 Cotton Acreage Up 5 percent; Soybeans up 3 Percent

Tennessee farmers intend to plant more soybeans, cotton, and dark-type tobacco acreage in 2004 and less corn, sorghum, and burley tobacco, based on a recent survey conducted by the Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service. Winter wheat and hay acreage to be harvested in 2004 is also expected to decline from a year earlier. "These survey results show an early indication of producers' intentions to plant," stated State Statistician Debra Kenerson. "Actual planted acreage may vary depending on weather, production costs, and anticipated prices at harvest, as well as effects of this report."

Prospective **soybean** acreage, at 1.18 million acres, is up 3 percent from a year ago and the highest acreage in four years. Planted acreage of **corn** is forecast at 650,000 acres, 8 percent below 2003 and the lowest acreage since 2000. The 2004 **sorghum** acreage is forecast at 35,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from the previous year. Tennessee's **cotton** acreage is forecast at 590,000 acres, up 5 percent from 2003 and the highest acreage since 2001. **Winter wheat** seedings for the 2004 season totaled 400,000 acres, unchanged from December and 30,000 acres less than last year. This is the lowest acreage since 1985 when 340,000 acres were sown. **Hay** producers intend to harvest an estimated 2.0 million acres, 30,000 acres less than in 2003.

The State's **burley** tobacco area for harvest in 2004 is

forecast at 27,000 acres, down 4 percent from the previous year and the lowest level since 1923. Other tobacco types grown in Tennessee all show increases in potential acreage for the 2004 planting season: Type 22 **Eastern dark-fired** acreage is forecast at 5,400 acres, up 200 acres from a year ago; Type 23 **Western dark-fired**, is forecast at 420 acres, 20 acres more last year; and Type 35 **dark air-cured**, is forecast at 560 acres, up 20 acres from 2003.

United States: **Corn** planted area for all purposes is estimated at 79.0 million acres, up fractionally from both 2002 and 2003. Expected acreage is up from last year throughout much of the Corn Belt as growers are hoping to take advantage of higher corn prices. However, most States in the Southeast and southern Great Plains are intending to decrease their corn plantings as producers are switching to soybeans and cotton due to more favorable prices relative to corn. **Soybean** growers intend to plant an estimated 75.4 million acres, up 3 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the largest planted area on record and a rebound from the three year decline in acreage. Current high prices are encouraging many producers to plant more soybeans, with the largest acreage increases expected in North Dakota, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Minnesota.

Winter wheat planted area for the 2004 crop is 43.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2003. **Cotton** plantings for 2004 are expected to total 14.4 million acres, 7 percent above last year. Upland acreage is expected to total 14.2 million acres, also a 7 percent increase. All States are expecting more acreage than last year except for North Carolina and Mississippi. **Burley tobacco**, at 157,200 acres, is up 1 percent from a year ago but 1 percent below two years ago. **Hay** producers expect to harvest 63.7 million acres of all hay in 2004, up 1 percent from last year.

Planted Acreage, 2002-2003 and Intended 2004, Tennessee and United States

| Crop | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 ¹ | 2004/2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 ¹ | 2004/2003 |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------|-------------------|-----------|----------------------|----------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Tennessee | | | | United States | | | |
| | 1,000 Acres | | | Percent | 1,000 Acres | | | Percent |
| Corn | 690 | 710 | 650 | 92 | 78,894 | 78,736 | 79,004 | 100 |
| Sorghum | 30 | 45 | 35 | 78 | 9,589 | 9,420 | 8,600 | 91 |
| Winter wheat | 470 | 430 | 400 | 93 | 41,766 | 44,945 | 43,372 | 97 |
| Soybeans | 1,160 | 1,150 | 1,180 | 103 | 73,963 | 73,404 | 75,411 | 103 |
| Cotton, all | 565 | 560 | 590 | 105 | 13,957.9 | 13,483.1 | 14,401.6 | 107 |
| Tobacco, all ² | 35.90 | 34.14 | 33.38 | 98 | 428.31 | 416.21 | 414.55 | 100 |
| E. Dark-fired (22) | 5.00 | 5.20 | 5.40 | 104 | 7.45 | 7.70 | 8.00 | 104 |
| W. Dark-fired (23) | 0.39 | 0.40 | 0.42 | 105 | 2.79 | 2.80 | 2.92 | 104 |
| Burley (31) | 30.00 | 28.00 | 27.00 | 96 | 158.70 | 156.20 | 157.20 | 101 |
| One-sucker (35) | 0.51 | 0.54 | 0.56 | 104 | 2.61 | 2.74 | 2.86 | 104 |
| Hay ² | 1,980 | 2,030 | 2,000 | 99 | 63,942 | 63,342 | 63,731 | 101 |

¹ Intended plantings for 2004. ² Acres harvested.

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee & U.S., March 2004 with Comparisons

| Commodity | Unit | Tennessee | | | United States | | |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | March 2003 ¹ | February 2004 ¹ | March 2004 ² | March 2003 ¹ | February 2004 ¹ | March 2004 ² |
| | | Dollars Per Unit | | | | | |
| Field Crops | | | | | | | |
| Winter Wheat | bu. | 3.01 | 3.77 | 3.05 | 3.30 | 3.68 | 3.61 |
| Corn | bu. | 2.66 | 2.63 | 3.05 | 2.33 | 2.61 | 2.79 |
| Cotton Lint ³ | lb. | .497 | .623 | .626 | .486 | .627 | .618 |
| Tobacco | lb. | 1.260 | 1.900 | 1.630 | 1.785 | 1.935 | 1.670 |
| Soybeans | bu. | 5.73 | 7.99 | 9.40 | 5.59 | 8.28 | 9.56 |
| Livestock | | | | | | | |
| All Beef Cattle | cwt. | 57.40 | 69.00 | 71.80 | 72.60 | 78.50 | 84.00 |
| Steers/Heifers | cwt. | 73.00 | 87.00 | 91.00 | 76.70 | 82.30 | 88.60 |
| Cows | cwt. | 34.00 | 42.00 | 43.00 | 39.50 | 46.10 | 46.70 |
| Calves | cwt. | 85.00 | 102.00 | 110.00 | 96.70 | 111.00 | 114.00 |

¹ Entire month. ² Mid-month. ³ Based on purchases first half of month.

U.S. Hog Inventory: U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2004, was 59.3 million head. This was 2 percent above March 1, 2003, but 2 percent below December 1, 2003. Breeding inventory, at 5.92 million head, was down 2 percent from March 1, 2003, and down 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 53.4 million head, was 2 percent above last year, but 2 percent below last quarter.

The December 2003 - February 2004 U.S. pig crop, at 24.9 million head, was 2 percent more than 2003, and up slightly from 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.81 million head, 2 percent above last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 47 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.85 for the December 2003 - February 2004 period, compared to 8.81 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

Grain Stocks: Tennessee and U.S., March 1, 2004 with Comparisons

| Crop | Tennessee ¹ | | | United States | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Mar 1, 2003 | Dec 1, 2003 | Mar 1, 2004 | Mar 1, 2004 | Dec 1, 2004 | Mar 1, 2004 |
| 1,000 Bushels | | | | | | |
| On-Farm Stocks | | | | | | |
| Corn | | | | 2,940,000 | 5,286,000 | 3,030,000 |
| Wheat | | | | 236,300 | 491,925 | 257,890 |
| Soybeans | | | | 636,500 | 820,000 | 355,900 |
| Grain Sorghum | | | | 27,500 | 45,200 | 21,000 |
| Oats | | | | 35,000 | 64,400 | 45,600 |
| Off-Farm Stocks ² | | | | | | |
| Corn | 12,116 | 15,449 | 12,862 | 2,191,873 | 2,667,775 | 2,240,641 |
| Wheat | | 7,072 | 4,166 | 670,333 | 1,028,359 | 761,141 |
| Soybeans | 1,405 | 7,390 | 2,720 | 565,528 | 868,653 | 549,623 |
| Grain Sorghum | 145 | 427 | | 135,423 | 190,736 | 137,652 |
| Oats | 248 | 150 | 199 | 47,879 | 54,900 | 49,469 |
| Total Stocks | | | | | | |
| Corn | | | | 5,131,873 | 7,953,775 | 5,270,641 |
| Wheat | | | | 906,633 | 1,520,284 | 1,019,031 |
| Soybeans | | | | 1,202,028 | 1,688,653 | 905,523 |
| Grain Sorghum | | | | 162,923 | 235,936 | 158,652 |
| Oats | | | | 82,879 | 119,300 | 95,069 |

¹ Estimates for Tennessee on-farm stocks are not published. ² Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. * Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

2003 Tennessee Trout Sales

Tennessee: The total value of fish sales received by trout growers in Tennessee during 2003 was \$198,000 down slightly from the previous year. The number of operations distributing trout was unchanged from 2002, but operations selling trout dropped 1 in 2003. The number of trout 12 inches or longer sold during 2003 decreased to 50,000 fish, while the average price jumped from \$2.01 to \$2.52 per pound. Total weight of all trout losses intended for sale was 9,000 pounds.

U.S.: The total value of all sales, both fish and eggs, received by trout growers in the 20 selected States totaled 66.4 million dollars during 2003, a decrease of 5 percent from 2002. Sales of fish totaled 62.3 million dollars for 2003, while egg sales totaled 4.18 million dollars. The State of Idaho accounted for 47 percent of the total value of fish sold.

Trout Sales: Number, Weight, and Value of Sales, 2002-2003

| Item | Unit | Tennessee | | United States | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----------|------|---------------|--------|
| | | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 |
| 12 inches or longer | | | | | |
| Number of head | Thousands | 130 | 50 | 50,191 | 45,941 |
| Pounds sold | Thousands | 148 | 55 | 54,401 | 50,716 |
| Average value | Dollars per lb. | 2.01 | 2.52 | 1.08 | 1.09 |
| Sales | Thousand dollars | 297 | 139 | 58,492 | 55,361 |
| Total Sales ¹ | Thousand dollars | 400 | 198 | 65,489 | 62,255 |
| Number of Operations ² | Number | 15 | 15 | 606 | 545 |
| Selling Trout | Number | 8 | 7 | 378 | 331 |
| Distributing Trout | Number | 8 | 8 | 258 | 242 |

¹Includes sales of fish 6"-12" and fish 1"-6". ² Number of operations January 1, 2003 and 2004.

Statewide Beef Referendum Set for April 23

State Agriculture Commissioner Ken Givens announced April 23 as the date for cattle producers to decide by referendum whether or not to approve and fund a state beef promotion program.

“Cattle production is the largest sector of our farm economy in Tennessee. This referendum will be very important to the future of the cattle industry and our ability to remain competitive should the national beef promotion program come to an end,” said Givens. “It’s important that every cattle producer take this opportunity to become more informed about the issue and to cast a ballot.”

Eligible producers can vote on April 23 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service office in the county of their residence. Provisions have also been made to allow farmers, in cases of hardship, to cast a ballot on April 21 or April 22 during normal business hours of county extension service offices.

In order to vote in the referendum, producers must:

- Be a resident of Tennessee
- Produce and market beef or dairy cattle
- Be at least 18 years old
- Sign a legal affidavit attesting to eligibility

Organizations representing cattle producers have called for a referendum, provided for under state law, to authorize the assessment of \$1 per head of cattle sold to fund a state beef promotion program. The state assessment would remain at the current national assessment rate and would only take place in event the national beef promotion program, otherwise known as the beef check-off, is discontinued.

Results of the referendum are expected to be announced by April 30. More information and a sample ballot are available by visiting online at www.tennessee.gov/agriculture, then selecting the “Beef Referendum” link. A directory of county extension service offices can be found at www.utextension.utk.edu, or check the phone directory under county government for local office listings.

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